



COMMANDER, U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND
(USPACOM)
CAMP H.M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4028

3 January 2018

The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn,

In response to your request for my perspective on the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2017 (FIRRMA) pending before Congress, I write to offer my full support. As Commander, U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM), I appreciate your leadership, and that of your colleagues, in advancing this important legislation. As you are aware, Secretary Mattis and others have expressed support for both FIRRMA and the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), and the new National Security Strategy now directly reinforces efforts to strengthen CFIUS.

Existing and emerging technologies are vital to maintaining our technological edge and military superiority. The CFIUS process is absolutely essential to protecting our defense technologies, military capabilities, and critical infrastructure. I particularly appreciate the intent of the FIRRMA to broaden the scope of review of real estate transactions focused on close proximity to military facilities.

Within the USPACOM area of responsibility, China represents our greatest long-term security challenge. China blurs the lines between military and civilian activity and uses its state-owned and private enterprises to exploit our open system and gain access to U.S. civil, military, and dual-use technologies. China leverages these technologies to strengthen its comprehensive national power. It is emboldened to coerce its neighbors and violate international norms and standards. This puts at risk our regional and global military advantage and influence, and ultimately our security and prosperity.

Through the Department of Defense's participation in the CFIUS process, we are well aware that CFIUS is protecting America's crown jewels – our advanced technologies. I strongly support strengthening the CFIUS process via FIRRMA.

Sincerely and Very Respectfully,

HARRY B. HARRIS, JR.
Admiral, U.S. Navy

cc:

The Honorable Richard Burr, Chairman, U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
The Honorable Mark Warner, Vice Chairman, U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, United States Senate
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff